

Oliu-1, Armando

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From:

Sent:

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Subject:

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Monday, January 20, 2003 9:59 AM

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STS-107 SRB Post Flight Retrieval Assessment

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## STS-I07 SRB POST FLIGHT /RETRIEV AL ASSESSMENT

KSC Debris Team

20 January 2003

The BI-116 Solid Rocket Boosters were inspected for debris damage and debris sources at CCAFS Hangar AF on 20 January 2003. Overall, both boosters were in excellent condition.

### ANOMALIES

None

### FUNNIES

None

### OBSERVATIONS

The TPS on both frustums exhibited no debonds/unbonds. There was minor localized blistering of the Hypalon paint.

All eight BSM aero heat shield covers had fully opened and locked, however one RH cover was bent back slightly due to parachute riser entanglement.

The forward skirts exhibited no debonds or missing TPS. RSS antennae covers/phenolic base plates were intact. All primary frustum severance ring pins and retainer clips were intact.

The Field Joint Protection System (FJPS) and the System Tunnel Covers closeouts were generally in good condition with no unbonds observed.

Separation of the aft ET/SRB struts appeared normal.

The LH ETA ring instafoam closeout exhibited missing foam on the aft side. The areas of missing foam were sooted, indicating they came off in flight and not as the result of water impact. The largest area was approximately 3 inches in diameter by 2-1/2 inches deep. This appears to correlate with the debris seen coming from this area on the tracking films (E-220, E-222, E-223, E-224). See photo.

Aft skirt external surface TPS was in good condition. Typical blistering of Hypalon paint had occurred on the insulation close-outs and GEl cork runs.

The holddown post Debris Containment Systems (DCS) appeared to have functioned nonnally on all HDP's.

No indication of stud hang up was observed.

Armando Oliu  
NASA -KSC

Missing instafoam, with sooting, from the aft side of the LH ETA ring.



Photo 1. LH SRB